



United Way of Greater  
Plymouth County

Mayflower RSVP, Inc. ~ 10 Cordage Park Circle, #231 ~ Plymouth MA 02360  
**The Plymouth County Center for Volunteerism**

# February 2012 NEWS NOTES

*Visionary Volunteering - Limited only by your Imagination*

## *From the Director ~ Joan E. Thompson*

As approved by our Board of Director's last month, our level-funded federal grant application has been submitted to the Corporation for National & Community Service for the upcoming year.

While it will be sometime in March before we receive official notice of the continuation of our funding, is it reassuring to know we are being considered for *level funding* and will not be cut further than the 20% loss we took this year!

Our request to you for Donation Support continues in each newsletter, since we must raise \$40-\$50K annually to match the federal award. With that combined federal and local "match" funding we will be able to continue to support a part-time Outreach Coordinator, along with our full-time Director and Office Manager, and the means to support 400 RSVP volunteers. To satisfy the federal award requirements and qualify to request its continuation, *we must have documentation for each and every active RSVP member*, as evidenced by a complete RSVP Registration form (signed by the Volunteer and the Project Director) with updated information when changes occur.

. Timesheets reporting the hours each volunteer is active with an RSVP member -agency (Service Partner) are also mandated.

Here's where we need your help.

1. "RSVP Registration form with up-to-date information" Last month we asked you to let us know of any changes in your Contact Information and your most recent Driver's License Expiration Date. We heard back from only a few who receive this newsletter by email. If you had trouble with the form or the email format, please let us know. We will send you the form by direct email; opt for the "Reply" function, then fill in your reply right on the original email and "Send" back to us.
2. "Reporting the hours each volunteer is active" Whether by individual volunteer timesheet or Team Reports from an RSVP service-partner, we need your cooperation to see that all hours you serve in an RSVP activity are reported to RSVP. If you report your hours directly, monthly, on a report – thank you! Please be sure it comes in before the 7<sup>th</sup> of the month following your activity. If you do not personally report your hours, be sure to ask your supervisor if he or she is doing so. *This is the most challenging part of documenting RSVP Volunteer Activity – and the most crucial one for meeting the federal guidelines.*

Thank you – and may "American Heart Month" fill yours with awareness for keeping your heart physically healthy and spiritually filled!

*JET*



## **Mayflower RSVP ~ Campaign 2012**

***Please make your check payable to:***

***Mayflower RSVP & mail to: RSVP, 10 Cordage Park Cir, Ste. 231 ~ Plymouth, MA 02360***

- \$500 ~ Provides one-year of RSVP support for 2 Volunteers
- \$250 ~ Circulates one month of RSVP NEWS NOTES with Volunteer Opportunities
- \$100 ~ Provides orientation workshop for 15 new RSVP Volunteers
- \$50 ~ Covers the Insurance premiums for 3 volunteers for one year
- Other: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ May we publicly acknowledge your gift? \_\_\_\_\_

# CALENDAR

Contact RSVP for details at 508 746-7787

**Feb 7** Plymouth high schools Science Fair, at Plymouth North H.S., Obery Street

**Feb 7 & 8  
6-8:30pm** Horizons for Homeless Children volunteer training (see "Horizons" in Volunteer Opportunities, this issue.) Call RSVP or email [coordinator@mayflowerrsvp.org](mailto:coordinator@mayflowerrsvp.org) to register.

**Feb 10  
2:30-4pm** New RSVP Volunteer Orientation and Current Volunteer Refresher at RSVP office, Cordage Park. Please call 508-746-7787 or email [coordinator@MayflowerRSVP.org](mailto:coordinator@MayflowerRSVP.org) to reserve your space by Wed. 2/8.

**Feb 16  
10am.** Plymouth Taskforce for the Homeless Annual Meeting and election of board members at Christ Church on Court Street Two board member slots to be filled. Please contact Connie Melahoures, President, for more information or if you would like to serve. 508-367-0516 or [conmel@aol.com](mailto:conmel@aol.com)

**Feb 28  
9am-12pm** Center for Nonprofit Management **February BreakFACTS: Sound Practices in Managing Your Human Resources**, facilitated by members of Rockland Trust. In the Brocktonian Room, CNM, Stonehill College. To register please visit [www.stonehill.edu/x11979.xml](http://www.stonehill.edu/x11979.xml), or call 508-565-1856.

## SAVE THESE MARCH DATES:

**March 14  
6:30-8:30pm** **Forum on Biking and Hiking in Plymouth** at Plymouth Public Library, Jordan Hospital, the Town of Plymouth are promoting community health by creating a huge network of public hiking and biking trails. Plans are for a "wishbone" of trails from historic downtown, to Myles Standish State Forest, to Ellisville State Park, with trails connecting to the train station and trails in other towns. Open Space "fair", with maps, brochures and books available pre-presentation. Speakers: Sen. Therese Murray; Mark Fenton, Healthy Community Initiative; Valerie Massard, Town Planner; Malcolm MacGregor, Open space Committee and Denis Hanks, Chamber of Commerce and Plymouth Outdoors Initiative.

**March 23  
10 am/12pm** New RSVP Volunteer Orientation (details, next month)

## RSVP Service Partners Renewed for the 2012 Program Year!

### Most recent additions:

Habitat for Humanity, Greater Plymouth  
Brockton Community Church After School Program  
Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society, Plymouth  
Halifax Council on Aging  
MA Department of Correction, Plymouth  
First Parish Church, Plymouth  
**NEW!** Hanson Children's Museum

### The Plymouth County Center for Volunteerism Mayflower RSVP, Inc.

10 Cordage Park Circle #231  
Plymouth, MA 02360

508 746-7787  
Toll Free 877 746-RSVP  
[www.MayflowerRSVP.org](http://www.MayflowerRSVP.org)

Joan E. Thompson, Ex. Director  
[joan@mayflowerrsvp.org](mailto:joan@mayflowerrsvp.org)

Sandy Clark, Outreach Coordinator  
[coordinator@MayflowerRSVP.org](mailto:coordinator@MayflowerRSVP.org)

## *ATTENTION RSVP Member Agencies!!!!*

Mayflower RSVP, Inc. provides free advertising of Volunteer Opportunities and Events to all Member Agencies with a finalized service agreement and updated Job Descriptions for the current year. Recently we have received several notices of important happenings in three sections of our region with deadlines only two or three days from the date of receipt. In order to get event notices in for re-emailing to our volunteer list or for publication in the RSVP NEWS, they must be in our office no later than the 18th of the month prior to publication. Items in the RSVP NEWS are also posted on our web site, [MayflowerRSVP.org](http://MayflowerRSVP.org) giving even wider distribution to the notice of your event. You may email to [RSVP@MayflowerRSVP.org](mailto:RSVP@MayflowerRSVP.org) or mail to RSVP, 10 Cordage Park Circle, #231, Plymouth, MA 02360.

## Plymouth Taskforce for the Homeless Update

### Overnights of Hospitality

At the half way point in its eighth season of sheltering single homeless men, the Overnights of Hospitality program has experienced an increase in numbers of men requiring shelter. Although four more men transitioned to permanent housing last summer, the numbers of homeless continue to climb.

Shelter-seekers have been in the double digit numbers for all but a few nights since the program opened in late October. There have also been an increasing number of women in need of shelter. With funds from the Salvation Army and the Taskforce, women are put up in a motel for a night or two until they can find other accommodations or get to Brockton's Mainspring House.

A huge "thank you" is sent the volunteer chaperones and meals providers. While finding meal providers is usually not a problem, finding chaperones presents a challenge, especially for the smaller congregational sites. Fortunately there are several volunteers willing to chaperone as needed at any of the sites.

Welcome to the Morning Sunrise Rotary and the New Hope Bible Study who are the newest food providers to the overnight's program.

### Next Step House

The Next Step House is now fully occupied with eight formerly homeless men and two house managers. Under the direction of Judy Erikson and the help of Habitat for Humanity, the kitchen remodel is nearly complete. Upon completion there will be an open house, probably in late February or early March.

### Property Search

Now that Next Step House is complete and fully occupied, the Taskforce is investigating the purchase of another similar property.

### Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting and election of board members will be Thurs., Feb. 16, at 10 a.m. at Christ Church. There are two board member positions to be filled. Potential candidates should contact Connie Melahoures, 508 746-3805 for information on the position.

## New Volunteers February 2012

|                    |                  |
|--------------------|------------------|
| Arlene Bourque     | W. Wareham       |
| Donna Costa        | S. Easton        |
| Patricia DeLappe   | Scituate         |
| Joseph Harden      | Marshfield       |
| Susan Harden       | Marshfield       |
| Jeff Kaufman       | Plymouth         |
| Jim Martelli       | Brockton         |
| Martha J. Mitchell | Norton           |
| Sharon Tannenbaum  | Kingston         |
| Christopher Whalen | East Bridgewater |

### Donors to RSVP

## Thank You

For responding to  
our December funding appeal!

### January Donors

Mary J. Bell  
Mary Bergstrom  
Bridgewater Savings Bank  
Jim Caramello  
Betty Clough  
Tobias Cowans  
Jen Cummings  
Walter Dietzer  
Margaret Gallagher  
HarborOne Credit Union  
Carol Johnson  
Bev King  
John O'Donnell  
Beverley Savage  
Barbara Sawdye  
Anne Smith  
Jim Sullivan  
Neila Walsh

## Special discount for Mayflower RSVP members!

The National Association of RSVP Directors has secured a special discount-benefit for all Mayflower RSVP volunteers and our Service Partner members. Motel 6 is proud to partner with RSVP to provide all of the RSVP members a 5% discount at any Motel 6 property nationwide!

Since Motel 6 is already the lowest priced hotel of any national brand, this just adds to your savings! Plus, every time that you stay at a Motel 6 property and use the discount you are directly helping support RSVP. To book your reservation using the 5% discount call **800-4-Motel6** and use the discount code: **CP555408** or click+control on the following link for a direct connection to the Motel6 reservation desk.

<http://www.motel6.com/reservations/promo.aspx?>

[id=rrm965e&utm\\_source=rrm965e&utm\\_medium=cobrand&utm\\_campaign=CP555408](http://www.motel6.com/reservations/promo.aspx?id=rrm965e&utm_source=rrm965e&utm_medium=cobrand&utm_campaign=CP555408)

The benefit is open to all RSVP's nationwide.



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10 Cordage Park Circle #231  
Plymouth MA 02360-7318

*RSVP mobilizes Volunteer Service Activities that get things done for local communities.*

## Mayflower RSVP Station Partner Events

SS Women's Resource Center  
GIANT sale at their  
**Court Street Thrift Boutique**  
February is for Lovers sale  
All coats: 50% off  
All belts, scarves & pocketbooks in the  
"Whatever" room: 25% off  
Sweater sale continues: buy one get one half off  
PROM dresses at prices that can't be beat!  
(Now accepting spring and summer clothing.)

**Court Street Thrift Boutique**  
71 Court St., Plymouth

Habitat for Humanity  
**ReStore**  
SALE 70% off  
ALL FURNITURE and LIGHTING  
February 1–29  
Senior Citizen Discount  
25% every Thursday  
(Cannot be combined with other offers,  
Does not include sale items.)

**Re-Store**  
72 North Main St, Carver  
Open Wednesday 10 am–noon  
Thurs–Sat. 9 am–5 pm

## RSVP Board Food Drive!

The Mayflower RSVP Board of Director's Food Drive to benefit the Greater Plymouth Food Warehouse collected 225 pounds of non-perishable food items and \$100 in cash!

The week long drive spearheaded by Board Member Jean Johnson, ran from Jan. 23 to 27 within the Cordage Park Commerce Center in North Plymouth. Collection bins were located in building 36 at 1620 Investments and Jordan Hospital Hospice and in building 10 at the Fred Astaire Dance Studio, Plymouth Council on Aging and Mayflower RSVP/United Way and at the Braintree Rehabilitation Center, 65 Cordage Park Circle.

The Council on Aging asked to keep its bin for a second week, so the total is expected to rise. According to Beth Thompson of the Food Warehouse, the 225 pounds translates to 141 individual meals.

The Board thanks management at Cordage Park Commerce Center for its support and permission to hold the drive.

**HOT JOBS!!!**

## Volunteer Opportunities at RSVP!

Please email [Coordinator@MayflowerRSVP.org](mailto:Coordinator@MayflowerRSVP.org) or call 508-746-7787 for details.

### Horizons for Homeless Children—Training scheduled for Playspace Activity Leaders



to work with homeless children in shelters located in Marshfield and Kingston. Leaders provide the nurturing, stimulation and opportunities for early education and play that all children need in order to learn and grow in healthy ways. Volunteers should possess a strong interest in preschool and school age children; be patient,

dependable and sensitive to homeless issues. You must participate in a 6-hour training and be able to commit to volunteering 2 hours per week for 6 months. Don't delay—call today!

**Emeritus at Plymouth Beach**—This assisted living complex is seeking **visitor-volunteers** to socialize with residents either one-on-one or in small group activities such as games or woodworking; men's activities are especially needed. Under the direction of the Life Enrichment Director, the volunteer/s may also assist with recreation programs to help provide, "a supportive environment to promote the health, independence and social interaction of seniors." Hours & days are flexible; must commit to at least one visit per month.

**Mt. Moriah Baptist Church**, Brockton, Food Pantry serving approximately 35 families needs more hands to assist with shelving, packaging, screening and assisting customers at the bi-monthly distribution. A helper sensitive to the needs of low income people will complete or update the client in-take form with each recipient as needed. The distribution is held on the last two Saturdays of the month from 9 am to noon. This pantry is facing a 20% increase in requests!

**Mass Correctional Institute, Plymouth** - Minimum security facility, camp setting, houses 150 pre-release inmates in programs for reintegration into society. **Math and Literacy tutoring; art classes; book discussions; Toastmaster Gavel Club; facilitators for cognitive skills workshop; sports and recreation.** Help needed for motivated young men. If you have an event idea or a skill to share let us know!

**Attention residents of Hull, Hingham, Norwell and Scituate!!** Meals on wheels **Drivers** needed at SS Elder Services to deliver, hot, nutritious meals to homebound elders in your community! Weekdays from 10:30 to 11:30am. Short routes and paid mileage. Great Need!

Other volunteer needs at SS Elder include:

**Friendly Visitors** to provide socialization and to help alleviate isolation of homebound elders through weekly home visits. Mileage reimbursement provided.;

**Money Management**, assist elders with bill paying and budgeting tasks; 2-4 hour per month and an initial 3 hour

training; mileage reimbursement provided.;

**Ombudsman Program**, volunteers make weekly visits to nursing homes advocating for resident' rights. Program requires an initial 3-day training; mileage provided.

**Plymouth Center for the Arts**, North Street, Plymouth, is in need of volunteers to **welcome gallery visitors** - especially for the Saturday or Sunday shifts. Volunteering can be once or twice a month or weekly if desired.

**Food Stamp Intake Assistant**—Patient, understanding volunteers sought to assist low income clients applying for SNAP (food stamps) benefits. Volunteer responsibilities include: computer experience to provide on-line computer entry for SNAP clients; explain guidelines and documentation needed and copy the documentation for filing. An 8 hour weekly volunteer commitment is requested. West Plymouth location.

**ATTENTION DRIVERS! South Shore Housing/HallKeen Management seeks a dedicated, caring, responsible person** to bring 16 Marshfield seniors bags of groceries on the 3rd Thursday of the month. The volunteer picks up the bags in Brockton for a noon delivery at the Marshfield community room.



training; mileage reimbursement provided.;

**Raymond Elementary**, Brockton, **Reading Partners** needed to help bolster the abilities of several students. Adult-partners work with first to third grade students under the direction of the classroom teacher for half-hour sessions. Reading partners are scheduled from Monday to Thursday; as they choose. This small investment of time sometimes makes a lifelong improvement in a child's life!

**Program Development Manager!** A challenging position for a retired administrative assistant or someone wanting to hone their skills prior to reentering the workforce. You will work directly with the Executive Director of the Halifax Council on Aging and the agency's Board of Directors.

This person will be asked to develop programs conducive to senior needs; coordinate events as needed and interact with seniors with sensitivity. Qualities sought include: excellent interpersonal skills; excellent organizational and oral communication skills and must be able to work independently. Skills required: knowledge of Publisher and other Office software.

(2-2012)